LONDON LABOUR
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BRIEFING
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As Lawson subsidises the rich;

STOP LONDON BLEEDING!

Twenty-four hours after Lawson's budget speech, Bloomsbury District Health Authority met to consider a new package of panic motivated cuts.

Closure of the busy accident unit at Stanmore Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and a halt to all admissions from the country's longest hospital waiting list (14,000 strong) were on the table.

By MARK SEATON

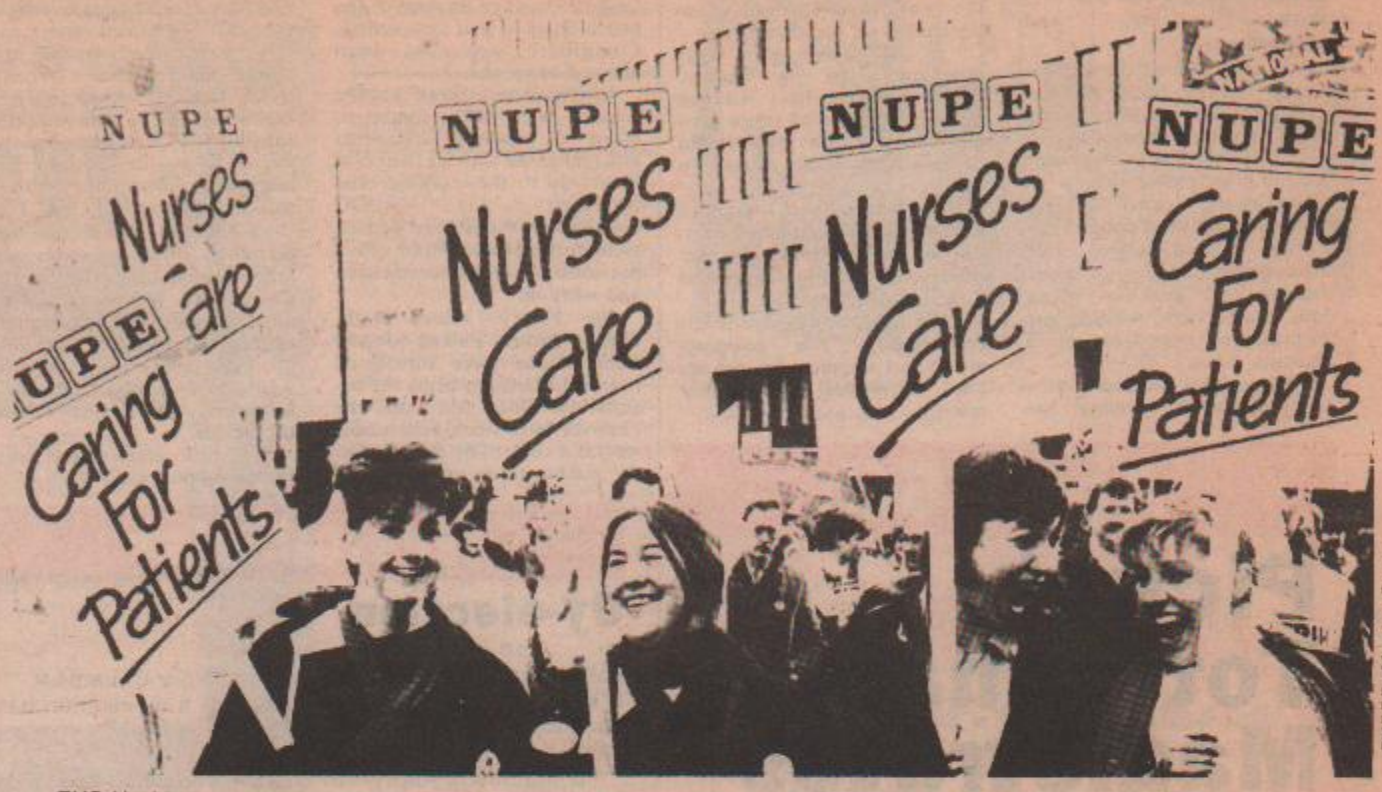


PHOTO: Martine Stead

TUC Healthworkers' demo, March 5th

Bloomsbury expects to overspend on its £140m 1987/88 budget by £2million. The new package of cuts, designed to stop the overspend, would come on top of another round of cuts needed to meet the expected £5.3 million shortfall for next year.

This cuts package includes:

- closure of the Royal Ear Hospital (to reduce numbers treated and "save" £800,000 a year);
- closure of Soho Hospital for Women (cutting gynaecological inpatient services by 20% and "saving" £500,000 a year);
- closure of four wards at Middlesex Hospital (reducing numbers treated and "saving" £750,000 a year);
- relocation of urology and nephrology from St Peter's Hospital Group ("saving" up to £2 million);
- cuts in family planning services ("saving" £336,000 a year), further restrictions on waiting list admissions ("saving" up to £100,000 *a month*);
- and the possible barring of all non-emergency cases from outside the District ("saving" up to £2.5 million a year).

The source of the crisis is, of course, government underfunding. The costs of inflation (especially the soaring NHS drugs bill) and a continual rise in patient numbers have not been met.

In Bloomsbury, admissions were up by 12% last year, despite bed reductions; this improved performance brought extra costs for drugs, dressings, tests, X-rays, and catering, and a massively increased bill for agency staff (up by over £3 million) due to the chronic shortage of nurses.

These desperate decisions were postponed by the DHA for another month. Local health chiefs are hoping for some relief when the North East Thames Regional Health Authority announces cash limits for the District in the coming weeks. But with Lewisham, West Lambeth, Waltham Forest, Hackney, Paddington, Riverside and other London DHAs all facing similar crises, and Lawson's refusal to fork out extra cash, their hopes are bound to be disappointed.

While Lawson boasts of a booming British economy, his cash-limits are forcing London's District Health Authorities to impose a "care rationing" reminiscent of a Polish supermarket, in which ever-longer queues form in ever-more forlorn hopes of ever-more limited treatment.

Unlike Bloomsbury's beleaguered health administrators, we will not be waiting for the miracle of extra cash from the Regional Health Authorities. We will be building in our unions and communities for local, regional, and national *action* to save the NHS.

LABOUR—TAKE THE POWER!

NHS

Woolwich fights closure plans

Despite miserable weather, nearly 3,000 people marched from the Brook Hospital in South East London to the centre of Woolwich on March 14th to demand more government funding for the NHS.

The demonstration was well-attended by nurses and local government workers.

Speaker after speaker at the rally which followed called for more action, not words, to defend the NHS.

Briefing spoke to Sue Ball, a NUPE steward and enrolled nurse at Greenwich District Hospital, who had earlier addressed the rally. Sue explained that there was a new mood in the NHS, following the victory of Manchester nurses in January. This had acted as a catalyst for hospital workers everywhere.

The Greenwich area has been hard hit by the cuts, with Bexley Hospital facing imminent closure. A secret plan to close the Brook has also been uncovered.

"When we lobbied the DHA, they denied that there was a closure plan," said Sue.

By Mike Phipps
Woolwich CLP

"Then a leaked document showed that there was a plan to shut it after all. This would mean moving the neuro-unit, which covers the whole of Kent, and would leave Greenwich as the only general hospital in the area.

"Greenwich Hospital has already been badly cut. Thee are now only half the number of domestics doing the same amount of work. Six beds have been lost on every one of the surgical wards.

"It is now normal for the porters to have only emergency cover. The isolation unit was shut. It has now been reopened, and joined on to another ward — so there's no real isolation. Meals and laundry have been cut too. Nurses are leaving in droves, and patients are being turned away from casualty because there are not enough beds.

"Pleading with the Tories for more funding won't have any effect: they only listen to action. The TUC should call a 24-hour general strike of every worker in the country to make the Tories back down on this issue."

Southwark

Surrendering to cuts

The problem of suspended Constituency Labour Parties in Southwark has overshadowed the cuts being made by Southwark Council to make up a £45m gap between income and expenditure.

The divisions of the Labour Group, largely based on personality problems, have meant that Councillors opposed to cuts have had difficulty in organising around principled positions.

Southwark Councillor Mark Howarth says the Council:

"has limped along since ratecapping, trying to avoid making real decisions about jobs and services, without any co-ordinated opposition on a 'no-cuts' basis...

"Since April '87, no consistent control of spendign has been possible. This has put tremendous pressure on tenants, the workforce and all those dependent on social services.

By Dave Mitchelmore
Peckham CLP

"In the absence of a clear direction from the Labour Group, officers have usurped power at times and taken control over decisions that should be made by those elected to office.

"The leadership is striving to acheive a legal budget by a mixture of rent increases (£9 over three years), 200 job losses and a recruitment freeze.

"We thought we were a left constituency. The goalposts aren't just moving, but are being 'redeployed' on another pitch."

April 5th

Picket Tottenham Magistrates Court

On Tuesday April 5th, four people go on trial in Haringey for offences allegedly committed during the December 10th meeting of the Local Government Committee at Wood Green Civic Centre.

Confronted with passionate opposition to their savage cuts policy, the local Labour right set the police on Labour Party members, Councillors and Council workers.

Of course, the police, in this case the Territorial Support Group (successor to the SPG), were only too willing to assault assembled lefties, women and trade unionists.

Among the defendants are *Briefing* supporters Mike Marqusee and Craig Brewin. Haringey Fights Back! has called a picket of Tottenham Magistrates Court (on Lordship Lane, N17) from 9.30 to 10.30 am on the first day of the three day trial, Tuesday April 5th.

Expenses for barristers and possible fines are mounting up. Plase send donations to Haringey Fights Back Defence Fund, c/o Peter Doble, 27 White Hart Lane, London N22.

SAVE HACKNEY'S LIBRARIES

STOP THE CLOSURES NOW!

Hackney NALGO

Workers occupy libraries

Hackney Council, as part of its cuts package, officially closed three branch libraries, two reference libraries and the schools project loans service on March 12th.

The closure of the reference libraries leaves only one in the whole borough.

Local people, library workers, teachers, etc., hvae been outraged. Protesting squatters also expressed their support.

Yet despite a massive campaign of letterwriting, petitioning, and lobbying, the Council were prepared to make very few concessions: just one branch library has been temporarily reprieved.

Three separate delegations spoke to a Council meeting recently and handed in a 5,000 signature petition. However, the leadership stage managed the proceedings so that sympathetic Councillors were not even allowed to speak.

As it was quite clear that the Council were not prepared to listen to reasoned arguments and realise the damage their cuts would do to the working class community, the NALGO members in the library department decided to go ahead with a previously agreed occupation and work-in.

On Friday March 11th, library workers walked out and went to the three threatened branch libraries to begin the occupation. Since that time, the libraries have been held under workers' control by members of the public, trade unionists and sympathetic Councillors, working on a rota basis. Members of Hackney Fightback have been particularly supportive.

By Dave Keane
Hackney

We have organised a number of events in the library along wth community groups and sympathetic individuals. These have included an "alternative" International Women's Day event with the Centreprise women writers group, and a poetry reading session led by "Rap" poet Brother Niyi.

The occupation has three main aims: to win public suport; to prevent the Council from using its private contractors to take out all the books, shelving, etc., from the libraries; and to link up with other groups of workers also faced with cuts.

The three libraries, Goldsmiths Row, Howard Road and Somerford Grove, are all in the heart of Council estates and serve many elderly people and school children. The Council's claim that it will provide a mobile service — a very poor substitute — has been met by disbelief, as the Council has neither the vehicles nor the staff to run such a service.

In addition, by closing the reference libraries and the schools project loans service the Council is further attacking local people's right to adequate educational facilities. The loss of key posts, such as the Assistnat Young People's Librarian, will further worsen the service.

We must resist these cuts. Please support us.

Westminster

By-election

Following the abrupt resignation of Tory Councillor ("sale - of - the cemetries") Hartley, a by-election has been called in the hitherto safe Tory ward of Lancaster Gate.

Polling day is April 14th and the campaign opens on March 24th.

Labour's prospective candidate is Francis Prideaux.

Prospective canvassers (especially Entryphone experts!) are asked to get in touch via (01) 286 9692

Azania/Namibia Forum Benefit

Saturday 26th March
7.30 - late

The Emerald Centre, Hammersmith Broadway, next to Clarendon pub

Somo Somo
The Mystery Girls
Jenako Black Writers Workshop
DJ Jumbo

(first act 8.45 pm)

Tickets £4/£2 concs.

Squatti the left

On March 9th Hackney Council evicted 200 squatters from Stamford Hill Estate in an action involving the use of over 200 police.

Several previous attempts to secure evictions had failed.

This operation proceeded peacefully, but was only achieved through the use of paramiliatary police tactics and some very dishonest and unorthodox procedures by the Director of Housing.

The anger and frustration of those evicted boiled over into a violent assault on Brynley Heaven, the Chair of Housing, at the Council meeting that evening.

The whole incident raises questions about the left's attitude to squatting, and the politics of housing allocation and need.

The squatting movement in Hackney is a well-organised and politically sophisticated movement which has drawn disillusioned and alienated young people in to it through their desperation for housing; housing which, by any other method, is simply unobtainable.

The internal politics of the movement are without doubt complex. But broadly speaking, the current balance of forces would appear to be divided between anarchists and libertarian socialists.

The dominant anarchist grouping, Direct Action Movement, is part of the International Workers' Assocation, an organisation based in Spain and with its roots in the Civil War. Class War, although having a high publicity profile, are said to be not particularly representative.

By Peter Chowney
Hackney

Reports of fascist infiltration appear vague and largely unsubstantiated.

It is the clear division between socialist libertarianism and anarchism which provides the key for debate around squatting. Within the movement itself, the socialists believe that the local state has a role in providing housing fairly, but that it is not fulfilling that role; the anarchists believe that all housing should be allocated through a process of self-organisation of groups of individuals.

The question then arises of whether we, as socialists, recognise the right to by-pass housing allocation systems where these are ignoring the legitimate demands of a particular group of people.

We must approach squatters as a group of individuals with the same legitimate right to housing as anyone else. The problem lies in attempting to

Hackney's scapegoats!

On Wednesday March 9th, Hackney Council ordered riot police to invade Stamford Hill estate.

Since then the esate has been under virtual police occupation.

People have been harassed and asked forID — just like the miners' strike.

In the past, Hackney Council has quite rightly refused to trust the police — how can they be trusted considering their record of brutality and racism?

Why throw 250 people (including at least 10 families who qualify for housing under the Council's rules) onto the streest when there are over 1,000 lettable properties in the Borough that are completley empty?

If the Council is so desperate for flats, why are a large number of those they evicted people from in the summer still not occupied (for example on the Kingsmead and Pembury estates)?

It just doesn't make sense, especially when one considers the amount of money spent on the Stamford Hill eviction (well over £300,000 on court costs, steel doors, etc.).

The housing crisis is about more than evictions of squatters. Bed and breakfast families were forced to move onto the estate, contrary to the Council's policy of making them two offers on different estates.

The Housing Advice Centre on Reading Lane has been closed for several months on the orders of the new Director of Housing, Janet Jones. Also there is the continued mismanagement of Council properties:

- the allocations system is a nightmare (for example, an elderly person living on their own in a two or three bedroom flat cannot get a transfer to a single bedroom flat if they want to!);
- major repairs or improvement programmes are delayed;
- instead of making the housing srevice more accessible, the leadership is proposing to shut a number of Area Bases and cut a large number of jobs.

This housing policy is inflexible and unimaginative. It can only deepen the housing crisis and heighten the frustration and anger of those on the receiving end.

Government

The Council should start listening more to local people than to central government and the District Auditor.

No squatters should be evicted until there is a real need for a property, i.e. it has actually been let or work is about to start.

Single homeless people should be given access to housing which is unsuitable for families.

With the coming Tory onslaught, abolition of ILEA, poll tax, etc., we should be uniting to put pressure on the government and find real solutions to the crisis, rather than adding to it.

The Council leadership lacks confidence in the ability of local people and workers to unite and fight back. But as they themselves acknowledge in their latest report to the Party, it is the only way forward.

(Extracted from an open letter to the Hackney Councillors and Labour Parties from Hackney Housing Action Group)

Squatters and the housing crisis

ng and

balance the rights and needs of conflicting interest groups competing for a very scarce resource.

There is nowhere near enough public sector housing to go round ; and any set of priorities imposed can never take account of all possible circumstances. In practice, people simply do not fall into ready categories dreamed up by housing allocators.

The mistake currently being made by Labour Councils is to believe that they can effectively set these priorities, and then justify them by setting one group of people in need against another: *"we have to evict squatters to house homeless families."*

As demand for housing grows, young single people simply get edged out of the equation altogether. The reaons for this are partly historical.

The 1977 Homeless Persons Act, a progressive piece of legislation, established housing as a right to households with children or people over 60; and was seen as the precursor to the right to housing for everyone.

Unfortunately,a long period of very reactionary Tory government has followed in which the supply of public sector stock has been grossly diminished. The Act has come to mean not that "priority" groups have an additional statutory right to be housed, but that *only* priority groups have a right to be housed.

The housing allocation policies of capitulatory budgets, furthermore, see homeless people as a financial liability.

Over the last ten years, the effect of these policies has been gradually to change the nature of inner city communities. Young people are forced out of their home areas, or are forced to squat and are consequently criminalised.

The only legitimate route to housing is to have children. Consequently, estate communities have become artifically structured so they only contain old people and households with children.

On Stamford Hill, the tenants association was opposed to the evictions and individual tenants interviewed by the local paper were also overwhelmingly opposed. The injection of young people back into their community is something most tenants welcome.

Council

It is this social engineering role of Local Authorities in the cities which Councils have consistently failed to take into account in their allocation policies. We have a responsibility to house all sections of the community.

If we do not, explosions of anger and frustration such as those seen on Stamford Hill Estate will become all too commonplace.



PHOTO: David Hoffman

Smear tactics and force

Homeless people squatting in Stamford Hill estate, Hackney, mounted impressive resistance to paramilitary mass evictions.

Councillors all over London were surprised at the scale of resistance — which was backed by local tenants.

The lessons of Southwark Council's attempts at similar operations almost two years ago had been lost on them.

These reprehensible strong state moves against the homeless, like attacks on the living standards of tenants and Council workers are of course the inevitable result of Labour Councils' compliance with government cuts.

By Cllr Piers Corbyn Southwark

Would a Council fighting the government wage such a war against the homeless? Of course not! There would be joint action by the homeless, tenants, and the Council to use empty flats — and quate probably take over vacant private property too.

Indeed, action such as that taken by the squatters may need to be taken by tenants against the handing over of blocks to profiteers under the new Housing Bill.

The usual deceitful and divisive scapegoating claims were made about "needing" to evict these people to make way for homeless families to come out of Bed and Breakfast.

Hackney

In fact Hackney, like other London boroughs, has many more empty flats than the numbers of people in B&B.

The usual mealy-mouthed twaddle that the eviction was done in the name of the (non)-housing list was trotted out. Homeless people, so desperate that they have to squat, are told they should "wait their turn", when the truth is that they are often discriminated against.

Socialists must demand that:

- Hackney Council provide flats for all those evicted on Stamford Hill estate.
- All Councils cease the practice of discriminating against homeless people obliged to squat.
- Housing policies be adopted which recognise housing rights for *all* — not policies which scapegoat the most desperate.

A distrurbing feature of the Hackney events is the insidious misinformation spread by certain Councillors and *Searchlight* magazine, concerning the squatters' politics.

Searchlight stated that fascists involved in the Direct Action Movement had penetrated Hackney and other London squatters' movements. The truth is that DAM is a very well known anarcho-syndicalist groups (the sister organisation to the Spanish CNT) which has a record of anti-fascism second to none.

Searchlight must know this, yet they publish as "evidence" a picture of a Direct Action Movement pamphlet which, when actually read, is totally anti-fascist.

So why is *Searchlight* smearing the squatters? And at whose reques:?

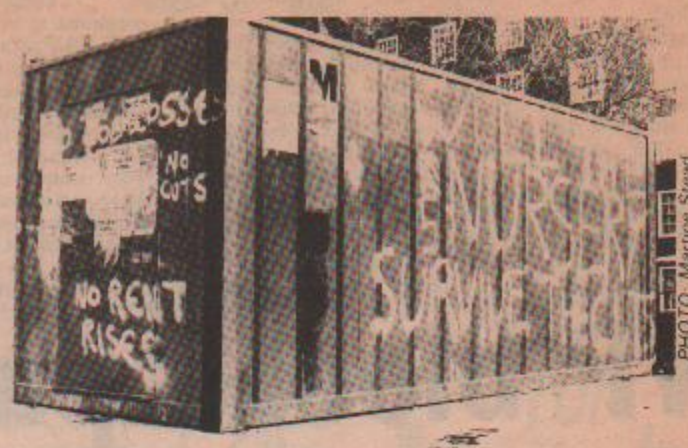


PHOTO: Martine Stead

PHOTOS: Stamford Hill estate, before, after and during the evictions of squatters

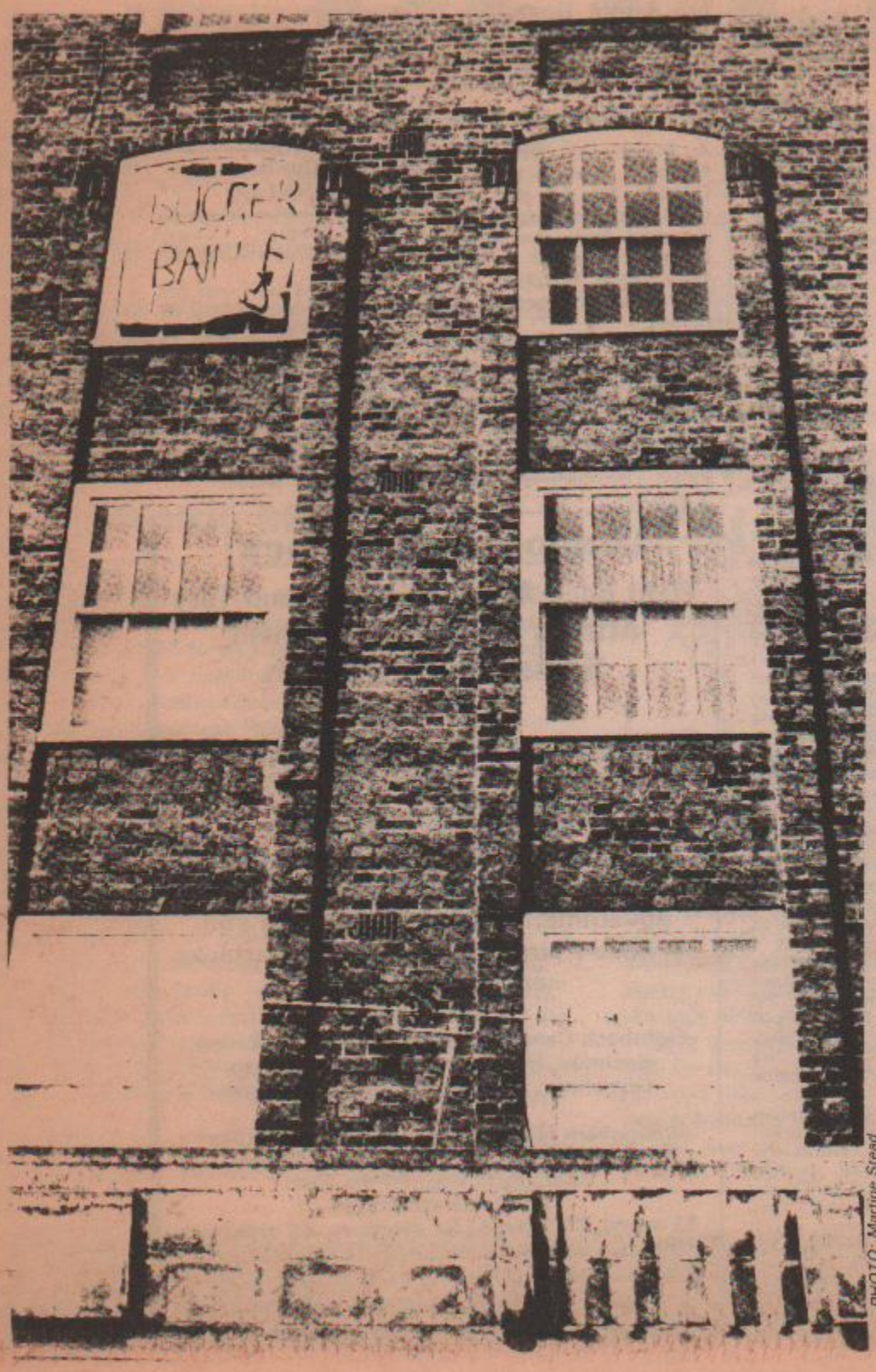


PHOTO: Martine Stead

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For details write to 23b Mildmay Road, London N1, phone 254 5582

Local Government and public sector



PHOTO: Nick Hazlewood

50,000 out on March 8th!

Some 50,000 people took strike action in London on March 8th to protest against Tory attacks on local government and education, and cuts in jobs and services.

Ten thousand marched from Kennington Park to a rally in Jubilee Gardens.

By Davy Jones
Secretary, London Fights Back

It was the biggest London-wide action on local government since the ratecapping campaign of 1985.

A London-wide day of action was first agreed at the London Fights Back conference last September. It was endorsed by the London Bridge shop stewards organisation, who set the date for February 24th. Subsequent liaison with ILEA unions moved it to March 8th.

- Ten local borough NALGO branches (Hackney, Ealing, Westminster, Islington, Hammersmith, Southwark, Camden, Lewisham, Lambeth and Haringey), supported by five Direct Labour Organisations and two NUPE branches protested against Government and Council cuts.
- 30,000 ILEA workers, manual and white collar, protested against cuts in ILEA's budget and the threat of abolition.
- 5,000 teachers took unofficial strike action after the national union refused them a ballot. Many more schools were closed on the day by ILEA NUPE schoolkeepers. School students marched alongside manual workers and Town Hall staff.

Protests were furious when ILEA Leader Neil Fletcher rose to speak from a "*Labour Listens*" bus: here was the man who had imposed compulsory redeployment on teachers, and who had piloted through a cuts budget threatening thousands of ILEA workers' jobs, speaking to an anti-cuts audience!

He was angrily shouted down. Then Campagin Group MP Mildred Gordon delivered a blistering attack on Labour Councils making cuts; much to the annoyance of the main platform speakers.

Media coverage was appalling. The day was simply presented as an "anti-abolition of ILEA" affair, or studiously ignored. What do 50,000 people on strike matter when you have a Royal avalanche to report?

Nobody believes that a one-day strike will stop the cuts or Tory attacks on local government and education. But March 8th did demonstrate a growing groundswell of opposition.

Initially few voices were raised to oppose the ALA's "new realist" stay - in - office - and - make - cuts line last autumn. Now more than 100 Labour Councillors have formed Councillors Against the Cuts. Eleven boroughs have local Fightback campaigns.

Most NALGO branches across London are totally opposed to cuts, and there is increasing disquiet among NUPE TGWU, and GMB members over their official London-wide support for the ALA.

Fightback campaigns have also been set up in Manchester, Birmingham, Brighton and Swindon.

Now Council and Fightback activists must meet with community and tenants groups to assess how best to take forward the struggle.

London Fights Back has called a conference for Saturday April 9th in Islington Town Hall to organise this discussion. Make sure your organisation is represented!

SWP blocks public sector action

On Tuesday March 8th 50,000 local government and education workers went on strike in London in protest against government and Local Authority cuts and the abolition of ILEA.

30,000 ILEA workers came out, including at least 5,000 teachers.

By FRANK STEVENS

It was an important step in the London-wide fight against devastating cuts.

The Socialist Workers Party opposed this action; worse, in many places it actively blocked with the right against those arguing for the strike.

Just to compound the error, the SWP created maximum confusion by *opposing* the call for a 24-hour strike in support of the NHS on March 14th.

Given the lack of media coverage and sabotage by the bureaucracy and Communist Party, the figures for the March 8th strike are remarkable. So what exactly did the SWP do, and why did they do it?

The SWP, loyal to their theory of "downturn" in the class struggle, argued that "the workers weren't ready" for such a strike. Alternatively, they argued that it would "divert attention from the Health Service".

Instead, they proposed to focus on a one-day strike on budget day, March 15th. This was a double confusion; while no major strike action had been called for March 15th, the COHSE leadership had called for action on the 14th.

In the end, thousands of workers took action on the 14th, a lot more than on the following day, which they SWP had seen as the main focus.

Why did the SWP plump for the 15th? The answer is their schematic insistence that everything should go behind the NHS, and everything else was a "diversion". The NHS day of action should therefore be on the 15th – because the SWP said so.

In practice the SWP were responsible, together with the right wing, for getting the March 8th strike called off in three NALGO branches – Tower Hamlets, Brent, and Greenwich. In Camden, the SWP were responsible, together with some members of the branch leadership, for overturning the strike decision (made by a January branch meeting) at the NALGO branch EC.

At the last moment the strike was on again, but the damage was done. Only 50 NALGO members came out.

In Islington and Westminster the SWP made determined attempts to get the March 8th action called off, but failed. In other NALGO branches, for example in Hackney and Lambeth, they just kept their heads down.

In ILTA the line of the SWP was more confused. In contradiction to their cormades elsewhere, some of their teachers argued for action on March 8th; some even for action on March 14th.

Of course it is easy to get over-excited about tactical differences, but some NALGO members have seen the SWP's actions as tantamount to scabbing. In those areas where SWP members carried out their national line and *opposed* the action on March 8th, they did not just adopt a neutral or agnostic position; they fought actively against the strike.

Why did the SWP call for action on March 15th – budget day – rather than the day before, which was chosen by COHSE nationally and supported by dozens of shop stewards committeees and trade union branches around the country? It seems to be yet another schema plucked out of thin air by the SWP leadership.

On the giant March 5th NHS demo in London SWP members chanted "TUC don't delay – call a strike on budget day!" – somewhat confusing to those who were also being given leaflets calling for action on the 14th.

The SWP's theory says the working class aren't ready for action – so down with the facts, and down with the strike action being called in real life. Blocking with the right wing is a very bad habit to get into and tends to have longlasting effects; it is sad to see the SWP doing it.

A bizarre footnote is that the Mach 12th issue of *Socialist Worker* appeared with the headline "Fight Back" – and a picture of NHS demonstrators calling for strike action – on March 14th!

The SWP are being thrown into confusion by the new upsurge of struggle. In the past the SWP has often made a fetish of unofficial strike action. Let's hope that their "downturn" theory won't lead them into making an opposite fetish – opposing large groups of workers prepared to take action – as 50,000 did in London on March 8th.

COHSE Day of Action in North London

The March 14th Day of Action saw more hospital workers taking action at the Whittington Hospital in North London than in February.

By Terry Conway
Islington NALGO

The most significant event since February is that a new Branch Secretary has been elected in place of the rightwinger who controlled the COHSE branch for many years.

Thus COHSE built for this Day of Action, whereas there was no official support the last time.

Whittington hospital workers have been busy in recent weeks, building up trade union organisation, including links between unions and support for action within the hospital, and speaking at many local Labour Party and trade union meetings.

This bore fruit with strike action taken in solidarity by members of the local bus garage, Council building workers, and the NALGO branch.

Over 500 people joined a local demonstration at lunchtime and heard local MP Jeremy Corbyn and various trade unionists address a rain-sodden rally before a large proportion of those present went on to the demonstration in central London.

The central London demonstration, organised by the London Strike Committee of hospital workers, drew around 7,000 people, despite limited publicity, lousy weather, and myriad local actions.

Health workers from St George's Hospital, the EGA, West London Hospital, the Whittington, Riverside NUPE, Brent COHSE, St Thomas's, Charing Cross, the Royal Free and many more were joined by workers from Shepherd's Bush garage, the London Fire Brigade, Kings Cross ASLEF, six local government NALGO branches, trade unionists against Clause 28, SOAS Students Union, and a large contingent from the Youth Trade Union Rights Campaign.

The mood of the packed rally at the friends Meeting House was epitomised by the chants of "The workers, united, will never be defeated", which resounded for several minutes before the meeting started. The Strike Committee had invited both Bickerstaffe and McKenzie to attend, and while COHSE had sent Pete Marshall, there had been no response from NUPE at all.

Pete Marshal was extremely critical of the exclusion of health workers from the platform on March 5th and argued that trade union leaders should listen to their members not to the courts. He pointed out that Health Workers could not win alone and asked the TUC to call action involving the whole movement.

Other speakers included a nurse from Charing Cross, a Tilbury Docker, speakers form YTURC, the School Students Union, Trade unionists against Clause 28, Shepherds Bush and Holloway garages, and Kings Cross ASLEF.

The events amply demonstrated the mood of militancy amongst London's health workers and the broad support for their cause. Their energy can be used to build for further action in the coming months.

A march of over 300 health workers from COHSE, NALGO and the GMB, and their supporters marched from the Royal Northern Hospital to the Whittington Hospital, led by a militant group of nurses.

By Glyn Rowlands
Haringey NALGO

Their lead in a variety of songs and chants enlivened an impressive demonstration of workers' determination to defend the Health Service.

They were joined by a broad cross section of workers, the largest contingent of which were Islington Council workers from NUPE, NALGO and UCATT.

Delegations were also present form Haringey and Islington CPSA, Haringey NALGO and Islington Trades Council.

Bus workers also took strike action and joined the march, after a delegation from the Whittington picket line addressed a mass meeting at Holloway Bus Garage.

London Fights Back!

Fight Back Against the cuts and Tory Attacks on Local Government

Saturday April 9th

10.00-4.30

Islington Town Hall, Upper St, London N1

(Highbury & Islington tube)

A one-day Conference to discuss the next stage of the defence of local government and education jobs and services from the threat of Tory attacks and Council cuts

Sponsored by:
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For more details, or to affiliate to London Fights Back (£10 per organisation) write to London Fights Back, c/o 23 Compton Terrace, London N1